

**GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT**

***Climate Ready***

Implementation Period: 2017 – 2022

Implementing Partner: To be determined

Total Estimated Investment: \$24,700,000

Geographic scope: Pacific Regional

Pacific Island countries are already experiencing sea level rise, increasing drought and storm frequency and intensity, ocean acidification, and consequent damage to coral reefs and fisheries, among other negative impacts of climate change. Many governments within the Pacific region request additional support to address these negative impacts. USAID's Climate Ready project will help Pacific Island countries to become more climate resilient, to protect the lives and livelihoods of Pacific Island peoples and increase their prosperity. It will work with government partners and other stakeholders to draft and implement policies to achieve adaptation goals; access larger amounts of financing from international climate adaptation funds; and improve the skills and systems within each country to better manage and monitor adaptation projects.

***Institutional Strengthening in Pacific Island Countries to Adapt to Climate Change (ISACC)***

Implementation Period: September 2015 – September 2020

Implementing Partner: The Pacific Community (SPC)

Total Estimated Investment: \$5,000,000

Geographic scope: Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu

ISACC works with eight Pacific Island countries to scale up national adaptation policies that have been successful in Kiribati and the Solomon Islands. The project links local partners, allowing them to pool their resources, manage their climate finances more effectively, and develop multi-sector approaches to adapt to climate change and reduce their risk to disasters. ISACC is assessing how Pacific countries manage their climate change finances, and is piloting a tool for them to better track these funds. The project will share findings from the pilot, so that countries can adopt and sustain best practices.

- In Palau, ISACC will support the recruitment of a National Climate Change Coordinator to be embedded in government to support climate finance, capacity building and policy development. Based on consultations with key stakeholders in relevant government agencies, SPC is drafting a Letter of Agreement and a Terms of Reference for the National Coordinator position. They expect this to be shared with the Government of Palau representatives by the end of September.

***Pacific-American Climate Fund (PACAM)***

Implementation Period: October 2013 – October 2018

Implementing Partner: Partners for Global Research and Development

Total Estimated Investment: \$23,991,293

Geographic scope: Pacific Regional

Civil society organizations (CSOs) in the Pacific often do not have sufficient funding and management capacity to respond to climate change challenges. PACAM awards grants to CSOs in 12 Pacific countries to implement and scale-up climate-resilient, community-level adaptation measures. These grants also enable programming that improves livelihoods, food, water security, and governance in the Pacific Islands. PACAM guides CSOs throughout the grant implementation, and helps them comply with USAID reporting procedures. In this manner, CSOs “learn by doing” and improve their proficiency in grant management. This positions them to replicate their projects, collaborate with other organizations, and engage in public-private partnerships. In 2015, the project awarded 15 grants totaling \$7.7 million that supported locally-driven and innovative initiatives on forestry, fisheries, and agriculture.

- ***Palau Conservation Society***

Project: Reviving Traditional Croplands to Improve Community Climate Resilience Project

Location: States of Melekeoki, Ngaremlengui, and Ngarchelong in Babeldaob, Palau

Period: 23 months

With a grant of \$243,818 from USAID, the Palau Conservation Society will strengthen community and ecosystem resilience to climate change by reviving traditional landscapes and associated ecological knowledge to increase food, environmental, and economic security of communities. The organization will work with communities and the government to revive neglected taro patches, the cultivation of which uses traditional soil conservation and watershed management practices.

- ***Hatohobei Organization for People and Environment***

Project: Improving Community Climate Resilience in Micronesia Project

Location: Remote outer islands of Palau and Yap, Federated States of Micronesia

Period: 24 months

With a grant of \$249,992 from PACAM, Hatohobei Organization for People and Environment will strengthen the resilience of remote and underserved Palau and Yap communities to climate change risks and hazards. This project will help redesign existing adaptation tools to be simpler and easier to use for local community leaders and facilitators, especially for those in remote outer islands of Palau and Yap that have yet to be reached by adaptation initiatives. The project will also train communities to identify short- and long-term adaptation actions.

### ***U.S. Peace Corps Small Project Assistance***

Implementation Period: October 2012 – October 2018

Implementing Partner: U.S. Peace Corps

Total Estimated Investment: \$3,090,000

Geographic scope: Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Palau, Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu

USAID works with the U.S. Peace Corps to raise environmental awareness among remote communities and increase their resilience to climate change impacts. In Vanuatu, Peace Corps volunteers train community members on climate change, adaptation measures, and disaster preparedness. Peace Corps volunteers also train community members to design and manage projects that address these issues. In Fiji, Samoa, and Tonga, volunteers train community members to build seawalls, improve water and sanitation, construct safe houses for use during extreme weather events, and integrate sound environmental practices into project planning.

## **USAID/OFDA REGIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION PROGRAMS**

### ***Building Disaster Management Capacity in the Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands***

Implementation Period: August 2013 – September 2016

Implementing Partner: Marshall Islands Red Cross Society, Micronesia Red Cross Society, and Palau Red Cross Society

Total Estimated Investment: \$1,480,000

Geographic scope: Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands

The Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands are vulnerable to natural hazards, including drought, floods, and storms. Through USAID/OFDA funding, the Marshall Islands Red Cross Society, Micronesia Red Cross Society, and Palau Red Cross Society—supported by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies—partner with local government agencies, businesses, and communities to build awareness of disaster response activities and cultivate a trained volunteer base for emergency responses.

### ***Building Disaster Management Capacity***

Implementation Period: April 2014 – September 2016

Implementing Partner: International Organization for Migration

Total Estimated Investment: \$480,000

Geographic scope: Palau

USAID/OFDA supports the International Organization for Migration to build the disaster management capacity of Palau through the Australian Government's climate adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and education program. USAID assistance in Palau focuses on contingency planning for typhoons, improving school-based preparedness for disasters, and facilitating humanitarian assistance and logistics training.

### ***Conducting Incident Command System Training***

Implementation Period: FY 2012 - FY 2016

Implementing Partner: U.S. Forest Service

Total Estimated Investment: \$235,000

Geographic scope: Palau and Vanuatu

USAID/OFDA and the U.S. Forest Service train partners from national and local government, as well as nongovernment organizations (NGOs), in Palau and Vanuatu to improve disaster preparedness. In Palau, following initial consultations with the national government, the project is conducting incident command system (ICS) workshops with key partners and integrating ICS with existing response systems. In Vanuatu, the project is supporting training courses for participants from the Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office, provincial governments, and NGOs to enhance disaster response capacity and facilitate emergency communication systems among the approximately 80 islands that comprise the country.

### ***Mitigating the Effects of El Niño-related Drought***

Implementation Period: January 2016 – December 2016

Implementing Partner: UN Food and Agriculture Organization

Total Estimated Investment: \$387,000

Geographic scope: Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Solomon Islands

USAID/OFDA partners with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization to monitor and prepare for El Niño-related drought in Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Solomon Islands. The program collaborates with national disaster response agencies to develop systems to monitor food production and supply, particularly in remote locations where information gathering proves difficult. In addition to developing a robust data collection process, this support assists local officials to assess drought impacts and food security to determine response needs.